X Numb. 537

The Daily Courant.

Wedneſday, January 5 1704

London, January 5.

The latter Part of the Memorial incerted in yeſterday's Courant, is as follows,

THIS Conduct, if you make due Reflection upon it, is a plain Demonſtration that all Monſieur de Mellarede has ſaid touching your Neighbourhood, is ill grounded, and contrary to the Experience you have all along had hitherto. Can you believe after what you have experienc'd, that the Conqueſt of Savoy tends to the ſhutting of you up? No certainly, Magnificent Lords, you are not capable of being ſway'd by ſuch chimerical Reaſoning; you know how to diſtinguiſh your real from your pretended Friends, and it is needleſs for me to point them out to you. You have ſeen the King my Maſter always triumphing, always glorious, always in a Condition to give Laws to his Enemies, and yet giving Peace to Chriſtendom at a time when nothing was able to withſtand his Forces: At the ſame time you have found his Majeſty always the ſame with reſpect to you; and tho' his Enemies have felt the Effects of his juſt Reſentments, and have been overcome by his Arms, you who are his moſt dear Allies, have never receiv'd any thing from him, but all poſſible Marks of his Eſteem and Affection for the Laudable Helvetick Body: You have ſeen that his Majeſty ſeeks nothing but your Tranquility; that his Endeavours to promote it have been ſincere and diſintereſted; and that he has always been ready to ſupport you with all his Force againſt all thoſe that would make any Attempt upon your Liberty. Nothing was ever more firm and conſtant, than the good Underſtanding that reigns between his Majeſty and the Laudable Helvetick Body. All I have ſaid on this Subject is unanſwerable, they are not merely fine Words tending to caſt a Miſt before your Eyes, (as the Enemies of France tell you,) they are Truths which 'tis impoſſible for them to contradict; and if they ſhould attempt it, Facts are the only Weapons I would make uſe of to overthrow their Arguments. Inquire into what is paſt, conſider what is preſent, compare what the Potentates that are allied to you have done formerly, and how they demean themſelves now, with regard to Switzerland; and with your wonted Equity you will acknowledge, that among them France has diſtinguiſh'd it ſelf towards you, by procuring ſolid Advantages for you; You will confeſs that our Nation agrees beſt with yours, for many inconteſtable Reaſons; that there is a Sympathy between the French and you, which has produc'd an Union that nothing can weaken; that in France, in Armies, in Garriſons, in ſhort, in all Places, the French and Swiſs always agree, and live familiarly, without any open Variance or ſecret Hatred, without Jealouſie, and in ſhort, carry themſelves towards each other in ſuch a Manner, that one would conclude they are made of the ſame Mold, and are but of one Nation, if one did not know that thoſe are Subjects of a great Monarch, and that theſe were born in a Republick worthy to be admir'd, both for its famous Exploits, and for the conſiderable Rank it holds among the Potentates of Europe. Should I in oppoſition to this, repreſent in what manner the Troops you have in the Service of others of your Allies are treated daily, I ſhould make a Compariſon that would diſpleaſe you too much, and for that reaſon I forbear doing it.

In vain therefore does Monſieur de Mellarede, after the Example of the Miniſters of the Potentates that are Enemies of France, endeavour to perſwade you, that you ought to be upon your Guard againſt the King my Maſter. I have ſeen the Credential Letter which that Agent preſented the Laudable Cantons on the Part of the Duke of Savoy, in which that Prince would inſinuate, that the King has done unjuſtly in treating him in ſuch a manner as he has done: But you will agree with me, that he has no other reaſon to complain of the King, but that his Majeſty took a proper way to prevent his ill Deſigns. How ſurprizing is it, to ſee a Prince, who ought rather to loſe his Life and Dominions than break his Promiſe, take Arms againſt his Son-in-Law, ſeek Means to dethrone his own Daughter, and, in a word, purſue a Conduct, that appears abominable, to our very Enemies, with whom he has engag'd himſelf!

Such Actions, Magnificent Lords, perſwade me, that the Laudable Helvetick Body, who found their principal Glory on good Faith and Equity, which ſhine in all they do, will never hearken to the Propoſals that have been made to them by the Duke of Savoy: And beſides, the Laudable Cantons know their Intereſt too well, to help to aggrandize an inconſtant Prince, whoſe reſtleſs Ambition would be very troubleſome to his Neighbours, if his Strength encourag'd him to make an Attempt upon them; and who can never be powerful enough to contribute in any manner to the Advantage of the Helvetick Body.

All theſe Conſiderations put me in hopes, that the Inſtances made to you by Monſieur de Mellarede will have no Effect upon you, and that you will not take any Reſolution prejudicial to the Intereſt of the King my Maſter. At the ſame time that he triumphs over his Enemies, you are Witneſſes of the Care he takes that his Power may give you no Umbrage. You might have obſerv'd it, when his Troops commanded by the Marſhal de Villars penetrated into Germany. You had no ſooner acquainted him that their Approach near you gave you ſome Uneaſineſs for your Neighbourhood, but I was order'd to make all the Offers you could deſire on his part, that your Tranquility ſhould be ſecur'd: I then promis'd you in his Majeſty's Name, that his Troops ſhould not poſſeſs themſelves of any Place on your Frontiers, provided you would find means to ſettle a free Paſſage for Letters from France to that Army; and I aſſur'd you, that in caſe the Emperor would not come to any Agreement with you on that Affair, the Places that ſhould be taken, ſhould be committed intirely to your keeping. You cannot refuſe to acknowledge, that nothing could be more Juſt and Reaſonable than the Propoſals I made. All theſe conſtant Teſtimonies of the ſincere Affection which the King my Maſter has for you, ought to diſcourage the Enemy from taking any further Pains, to put you in Apprehenſion of the Deſign, falſely imputed by them to France, of ſurrounding you on all ſides.

To conclude, I have Orders from the King my Maſter, to give renew'd Aſſurances of his Royal Affection

Affection for the whole Helvetick Body. All the Victories the King's Troops have won this Campaign, all the Conquests they have made, and those with which God shall bless the just Cause of the 2 Crowns, will never alter the kind Sentiments his Majesty always preserv'd for Allies so dear to him as you: On the contrary they will, if possible, augment the Desire he has to contribute to every thing that can be Advantagious to you. After this, Magnificent Lords, his Majesty may with Reason expect, that you will justly distinguish among your Allies, those who signalize themselves in your favour in so engaging a manner. The grateful Return you shall make, will be becoming the Reputation you have so justly acquir'd by your Prudence and Equity; and at the same time will inform those who have not yet deserv'd you should put any Confidence in them, that there is no other way to work upon you, but by dealing with you without Artifice, as my Master has always done.

I am, Magnificent Lords, &c.

Puiseux.

Acted there but thrice these 12 Years.

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